

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, the estimated amount for the construction of the Power House is Rs. 1 lakh; and no revised estimate has been forwarded by the Electrical Engineer.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know what portion of the work has been completed till the date of the question?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot exactly say. From the expenditure that has already been incurred, I can say it is nearly complete.

Acquisition of the Perumalkulam lands.

439. * **MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): With reference to the acquisition of the Perumalkulam lands in Shencotta Town, will the Government be pleased to state:

- (a) when the lands were acquired by Government;
- (b) the purpose for which the lands were acquired; and
- (c) the cause or causes for the delay in auctioning the lands to the people?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*):

(a) The lands were acquired and taken possession of by Government in 1103.

(b) The lands were acquired at the request of the Shencotta Municipal Council for improving the sanitary condition of the Shencotta Town.

(c) The delay was caused by the Municipality which backed out of the original promise and proposed new terms. The Government have ordered that, since roads are necessary in the interests of the purchasers and to enhance the value of the sites, the lands in question should be auctioned only after the main roads have been laid out. The matter is under the consideration of Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): With reference to the answer to part (b), may I know whether the Government were satisfied that the lands acquired were necessary for improving the sanitary condition of the town?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): They were satisfied.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): With reference to the answer to part (c) of the question, may I know, Sir, when the Municipality proposed new terms at variance with the original terms?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot give the exact date. At first the Municipality agreed; but when, later on, a new President took charge of the Municipality, he backed out of the whole arrangement.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know the approximate date when the new terms were proposed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I claim notice.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, whether the new terms were substantially different from the original terms?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I believe they were.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, whether Government have come to a decision upon the acceptability of the proposed new terms?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The new terms were not accepted by Government.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, when the Government came to the decision that the roads should be laid out before the lands could be auctioned?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I am not in a position to give the exact date. I claim notice.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, what the difficulty is in laying out the roads?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There is no difficulty. The survey has been completed and the plans prepared. The survey records are now pending with the Survey Superintendent.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, how long they have been pending?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): They have been pending for a long time, and I have reminded the Survey Superintendent to expedite the final approval of the survey records.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, approximately how long the Government will take in regard to this matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Not much longer.

Bridge at the Thottapalli Ferry.

440. * **MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR** (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the question of constructing a bridge over the canal at the Thottapalli Ferry?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Yes.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the Government have come to a decision about the matter?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Not as yet.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know, Sir, whether they have got an approximate idea of the estimate?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Well, as a matter of fact, it has been proposed to have a bridge, and then a combined proposal to deal with the flood problems in Kuttanad came up. At present we are awaiting the report of the specialist.